

Dear Members of Labor and Public Employees Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Graciela Rivera and I live in Hartford, Connecticut. I support Senate Bill No. 1178: *An Act Expanding Connecticut Paid Sick Days*.

I am a proud librarian who is lucky enough to work for an organization for which one of the benefits is sick time. I can imagine how devastating my circumstances would be without the sick pay; especially as I work with a community that doesn't have access to paid sick days and I could see the stress it unnecessarily adds.

Additionally, parents need access to a paid sick days policy that takes into account that when one of us gets sick, the rest of us do too. We need more than 40 hours and 80 is a great start! As a mother of two, when a virus hits home it usually affects the whole family, and sometimes it doesn't but viruses are unpredictable so it's not a guarantee whether everyone at home will get sick or not. Having sick pay has allowed me to shift gears, care for my family and myself when I needed it most, and also ensure that the bills are paid on time.

Everyone employed deserves this peace of mind. No one should have to choose between caring for their loved ones, and their health, or meeting work hrs to put food on the table. Please support and approve the Paid Sick Days law that is outlined in SB 1178.

Thank you for your time,  
Graciela Rivera Hartford, CT